

City Manager Memo

City of Ridgecrest April Monthly Newsletter

Street Construction Projects 2014

Utilizing several sources of funding, including TAB and Measure L funds, the City is scheduling the following street projects for this calendar year:

- W. Ridgecrest Blvd. reconstruction, Mahan to China Lake Blvd.
- S. Sunland Street construction, Upjohn to Bowman Rd.
- S. Sunland Street reconstruction, E. Ridgecrest Blvd. to Upjohn Ave.
- S. China Lake Blvd. overlay, Upjohn Ave. to Bowman Rd.
- Gateway Blvd. overlay, Bowman Rd. to Upjohn Ave.
- N. Mahan St. overlay, Ward Ave. to Graaf Ave.
- Safe Routes to School Projects,
 - Street improvements around Las Flores Elementary,
 - Street improvements around Gateway Elementary,
 - Street improvements around Monroe Middle School,
- Traffic signal construction at Upjohn and China Lake Blvd.
- Seven micro paving projects
 - Las Flores, Norma to Downs
 - Downs Street, Bataan to Bowman
 - Drummond, Downs to Norma
 - Dolphin, Mahan to Downs
 - Norma, Las Flores to Drummond, Capeseal
 - Gold Canyon Rd., Benson to Hayden
 - Downs, China Lake Blvd. to Dolphin, Capeseal

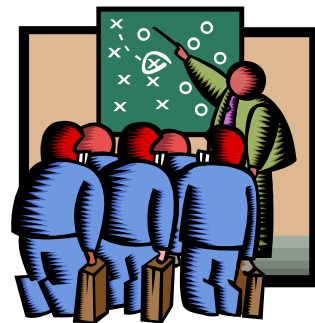


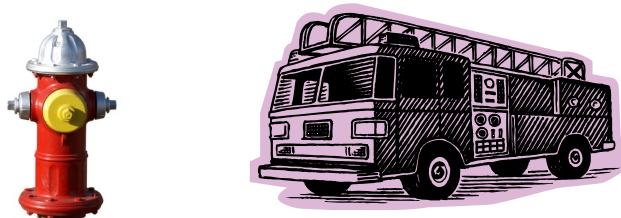
Strategic Planning Goals Discussion Workshop

At the Town Hall Meeting which was held on April 1, 2013, the City Council conducted a goal setting workshop. The workshop consisted of a 15 minute discussion session for each group table followed by an open discussion of potential goals identified by each group table. The attendees were provided with 5 color dots which were used to vote for their choices of previous or new goals.

Attendees reviewed the total votes and identified the top ten goals as follows:

1. Implement and Fund the pavement Management System
2. Improve quality of parks and sports facilities
3. Promote economic development alliance
4. Become alternate energy center
5. Meet the needs of youth
6. Create a signature event
7. Provide sufficient staffing
8. Enhance code enforcement
9. Create a vibrant downtown
10. Explore and develop a purple pipe system for grey water





Fire Services

The City of Ridgecrest and the County of Kern have negotiated an agreement to continue contract fire services.

The state law provides that the legislative body of a general law city shall establish a fire department for the city, and that the fire department shall be under the charge of a chief who shall have had previous training and experience as a firefighter, and that the other members of said fire department shall consist of paid firefighters or such companies of call firefighters as the legislative body may determine. State law further allows the City to contract with the County for fire services. This agreement provides for the mandated fire services.

The services include: Fire prevention and suppression, emergency medical responses, rescues, hazardous materials responses, fire cause and arson investigation plus all COUNTY support services including, but not limited to, supervision, dispatching, training, equipment maintenance, supplies and procurement, collectively referred to as "services."



Sign Reflectivity Inventory and Management Plan

The City Council at its April 16, 2013 meeting approved a professional services agreement with the consulting firm of Safety Network for the Sign Reflectivity Inventory and Management Plan.

This plan is necessary and timely because the Federal Highway Administration has mandated public agencies to have a Sign Reflectivity Inventory and Management Plan in place by June 13, 2014. Additionally all regulatory, warning, or post mounted guide signs are to be replaced by January 2015 if they are not meeting reflectivity specifications. Street name signs are also required to meet reflectivity specifications and out of compliance signs are required to be replaced by January 2018.



Police

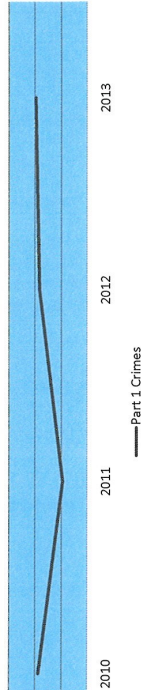
Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Mar 2014

Crime

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date	
	Mar13	Mar 14	2013	2014
Violent Crime	30	32	85	93
Murder	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0
Robbery	3	0	5	3
Assault	27	32	79	89
Property Crime	52	24	172	105
Burglary	20	5	67	32
Larceny	28	19	90	64
Auto Theft	4	0	10	9
Arson	0	0	5	0
Part 1 Crimes	82	56	253	199
			-32%	-21%

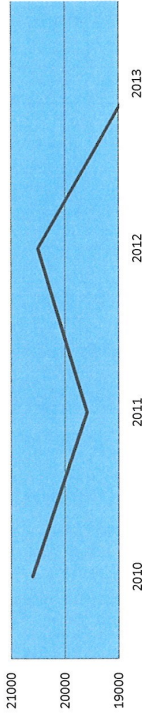
Part 1 Crimes



Performance Measures

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date	
	Mar13	Mar 14	2013	2014
Patrol Activity	2560	2624	7687	7336
Total Incidents	1596	1483	4821	4148
Calls for Service	964	1141	2866	3188
Officer Initiated Incidents	332	504	872	1291
Traffic Stops	632	637	1994	1897
Other OIA Incidents				
Reports Taken	389	361	1080	1016
Total Arrests	192	226	589	614
Felony Arrests	53	55	173	148
Juvenile Arrests	31	16	52	46
Drug Related	25	32	108	106
			-28%	-2%

Calls for Service



Personnel

	Allocated	Filled	Vacant
Total	49	49	0
Sworn	32	32	0
Professional Staff	17	17	0

Vacant Positions

	Status

Investigation

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date	
	Mar13	Mar 14	2013	2014
News Cases	318	380	1069	745
Cleared DA or Other	277	129	629	224
Arrests	25	24	73	69
Inactivated	48	74	191	168
Active	417	88	1373	292
			-79%	-79%

K-9 Deploy

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date	
	Mar13	Mar 14	2013	2014
Deployments	6	2	10	11
Apprehensions	1	0	1	2
Building Searches	1	0	2	2
Vehicle Searches	3	2	4	6
Drug Finds	2	1	3	4
			-50%	33%

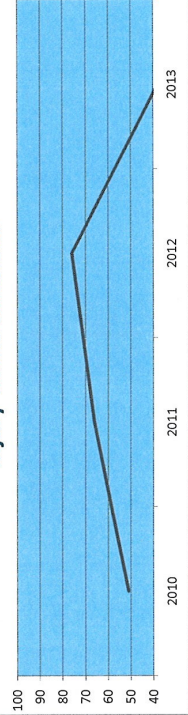
Traffic

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date	
	Mar13	Mar 14	2013	2014
Citations	58	62	129	170
Moving	7	13	25	30
Non-Moving	17	11	35	34
RMV Violation	19	13	47	46
Collisions	0	0	0	0
Fatal	3	4	9	7
Injury	13	9	35	38
Non-Injury	3	0	3	1
DUI Related				
			-100%	-67%

Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD

1. W. Bowman Rd./S. Downs St.
2. N. China Lake Blvd./Las Flores Ave.
3. N. Norma St./W. Las Flores Ave.
4. S. Sunland St./E. Ridgcrest Blvd.
5. N. Inyo St./W. Drummond Ave.

Injury Traffic Collisions



Top 5 PCFs YTD

1. Failure to yield 21801 (a)
2. Unsafe turning movement
3. Fail to stop at red light
4. Fail to stop at stop sign
5. Failure to yield 21602 (a)



RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following tables reflect Part 1 Crime Data, of offenses reported to the Ridgecrest Police Department in January through December. The data listed below is collected from our Records Management System, and then sorted into Part 1 categories per Department of Justice reporting standards.

2014 Monthly Part 1 Crime Report

[illegible]

Public Works



Creating Safer Work Zones:

Improving Operations on Both Sides of the Barrel

Facts:

- During the past 5 years in work zone crashes more than:
 - 4,400 persons died (85 percent of which was the driver or passenger)
 - 200,000 persons were injured
- Drivers are the most frequent fatality in work zone crashes
- Most work zone fatalities involve working-age adults
- Rear-end crashes (running into the rear of a slowing or stopping vehicle) are the most common type of work zone crash.

• Fatal work zone crashes occur most often in summer and fall

• The majority of fatal work zone crashes occurred on roads with speed limits greater than 50 mph.

• Stopping distance for motor vehicles at 50 mph:

Dry roadway~300 ft

Wet roadway~400 ft

Icy pavement~1250 ft

• A loaded 80,000 lb. tractor-trailer requires almost 50% more stopping distance.

• It takes only an extra 25 seconds to cover 1 mile at 45 mph compared to 65 mph.



Public Works

Safety Tips for the Driver

Remember these driving tips to avoid “A Sudden Change in Plans” and perhaps save a life—including your own!

Stay Alert and Minimize Distractions

- Dedicate your full attention to the roadway
- Avoid changing the radio station, using a mobile phone, eating, or other distractions that can remove your concentration from the road

Keep Your Headlights On

Pay Attention to the Road

- “Listen to the signs”
- Watch brake lights on vehicles ahead
- Watch traffic around you and be prepared to react

Merge into the Proper Lane

- Merge well before you reach the lane closure
- Be aware that traffic patterns can change daily

Don't tailgate

- Follow other vehicles at a safe distance



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|--|
| • Workers may be present just feet away |
| • Fines may be doubled for moving traffic violations |
| • Be prepared to slow down further if conditions indicate the need |

Change Lanes Safely

- | |
|---|
| • Change lanes only where pavement markings indicate, and only when traffic conditions permit |
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Follow Instructions from Flaggers

Expect the Unexpected

- | |
|--|
| • Workers, work vehicles, or equipment may enter your lane without warning |
| • Other vehicles may slow, stop, or change lanes unexpectedly |

Be Patient

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Public Works

Wastewater Department

The City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Facility operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56.

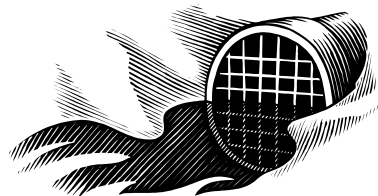
The Department responded to (2) requests for service, which was homeowner lateral related.

The Department as compliance with SSMP performed line maintenance on 1,205 ft. of main line collection system.

The Reclamation Department reclaimed 2.64 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.

The Department as part of the safety protocol is painting the safety barrier hand rails a florescent safety yellow, for OSHA compliance.

The Department is performing reclamation facility pond maintenance, in preparation for increased agricultural activity.



ridgerunner Transit Department

April is a busy month for Transit. Transit applied for funding from California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for both Fiscal Year 12-13 (Corporation Yard Security Alarm & Lighting System) and Fiscal Year 13-14 (City Hall Transfer Station Security Camera System).

In addition, transit is working on new Title VI compliance mandates and has attended several trainings to assist us in the completion of these new mandates.



STREET DEPARTMENT

The Street Department has continued with it's on going preparation in getting ready to resurface the 2014 Spring Project list. They are S. Downs Street, S. China Lake to W. Bowman Road; W. Drummond Ave., N. Norma Street to N. Downs Street; N. Norma Street, W. Las Flores Ave. to W. Drummond Ave. and S. Gold Canyon Street Benson Ave. to Hayden Ave. These projects are scheduled to be resurfaced weather permitting the week of May 12th.

The Street Department also did a cold mix cap on Oregon Street from Ranger Avenue to Downs Avenue this last month. Many of the residents on this street were very happy with the Department and voiced their appreciation to the workers and also to our City Engineer, Loren Culp.

Public Works

Engineering Department

Report Period from March 21, 2014 thru April 21, 2014

Inspections:

Inspection of Searles Valley relocation of water line for the W. Ridgecrest Blvd. project.
Inspection of IWVWD removal and relocation water lines for W. Ridgecrest Blvd. project
Inspection of PG&E relocation of gas lines for W. Ridgecrest Blvd. project
Inspection of Media Com lowering of communication lines for W. Ridgecrest Blvd. project

Private Development Activity:

Field check of grading and street improvements for Dave Tharp storage bldg. project on Gateway Street.
Met with Mike Patel regarding final inspection of Hotel on Miguel Ct.
Had discussions with Mr. Steven Hair regarding taking over the D.R. Horton Projects.
Worked with Brett Paulson of SCE on easement requests for Downs Substation Project.
Worked with PG&E on encroachment permit for China Lake Blvd.

General:

Conducted Utilities meeting; coordination of utility relocations on Ridgecrest Blvd.
Issued Notice to Owners to all utility companies for this year's construction projects.
Met with Code Committee for changes to municipal code.
Meeting with SCE to discuss street light alternatives.
Got consultant started on annual report for Lighting and Landscaping District #1.
Got IWVWD started on annual water usage report for annual sewer availability tax bill.





Public Works

Engineering Department

Public Sector Projects:

Ridgecrest Blvd.

- ⇒ Worked with Mark Thomas Inc. , Ed Noriega & Kevin Smith, on utility relocations, redesign issues at Balsam intersection.
- ⇒ Coordinated with IWWWD for scheduled relocation of water lines.
- ⇒ Worked with new planner Phyllis Walker with SCE for new service to traffic signals, decorative street lights and irrigation controllers.
- ⇒ Worked with Cindy Quinn of SCE on pole conflict issues.
- ⇒ Ordered surveys of pole in conflict at S.W. corner of Downs.
- ⇒ Attended pre-construction meeting Monday, April 14th.

HSIP, Upjohn Traffic Signal Project

- ⇒ Coordination with Rob Kilpatrick, Construction Manager.
- ⇒ Utilities have been marked out and pole positions finalized.
- ⇒ Materials on order.

CMAQ, Sunland Street, between Upjohn and Bowman

- ⇒ Awaiting Caltrans authorization to go to bid.

TAB & Measure L, Sunland Street, between Ridgecrest Blvd. and Upjohn

- ⇒ Conducted pre bid meeting with contractors.
- ⇒ Bid opening Tue. April 22nd.

RSTP, China Lake Blvd., between Upjohn and Bowman

- ⇒ Reviewed 95% complete plans and spec's

(4) HSIP projects

- ⇒ Reviewed 95% complete plans and spec's for the 7 signals projects.
- ⇒ Reviewed 95% complete plans and spec's for 12 intersections projects.
- ⇒ Reviewed design for Drummond St. widening, authorized additional property acquisition services for additional R/W.
- ⇒ Discussed issues with Bowman traffic signal plans and timing of project relative to Walmart project.

Downs Street Design

- ⇒ Reviewed 60% complete plans and specifications.

Bus Garage

- ⇒ Awaiting bid sets to go out to bid.

New Projects, CMAQ & RSTP

- ⇒ CMAQ, Warner Street sent out RFP's for design and construction management.
- ⇒ RSTP, S. China Lake Blvd., between Bowman Rd. to South of College Heights Blvd., sent out RFP's for design and construction management.
- ⇒ RFP's due April 28th.

SRTS, Cycle 3

- ⇒ Project out to bid, Pre bid meeting set for Tue., April 22nd.

Sign Reflectivity, Sign Inventory Project

- ⇒ Selected consultant and awarded contract to Traffic Network.

Active Transportation Plan, ATP

- ⇒ Meeting with School District and consultant for project submittals.
 - ⇒ Reviewed project options for Safe Routes to School and Disadvantaged Neighborhoods.
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